

OBITUARY.
CHARLES E. BROWNE. (ARTHEMUS MADE.)

OBITUARY.

CHARLES F. BROWNE.—(ARTEMUS WARD.)

A dispatch by the Atlantic Cable gives instant notice of the death of this popular American humorist, which occurred on the 6th inst., at Southampton, England. The news that Mr. Browne had recently been compelled by illness to suspend his entertainments in London was not sufficient to prepare the public for the announcement of his early death. It was generally supposed that his disorder was merely temporary, and that he would presently be able to resume his prosperous career. But more intimate friends had long been aware of his dangerous condition, and by them the information which comes to-day could not at any time within the last year have been entirely unexpected.

Mr. Browne was somewhat over 35 years old at the time of his death. He was born in the town of Watford, Maine, where his mother still resides. His first connection with any newspaper was in the capacity of a compositor for *The Standard* of that State, and it may be interesting to those who were acquainted with him only in his late characters of writer and public speaker to know that before abandoning this handicraft, he had rendered himself one of the most, if not positively the most expert, of its followers in the United States. It was in consequence of a type-set for *The Bay*, and a comic story, formerly published in *Brown's*, that he first attempted anything in the form of literary labor. He was then some fifteen years of age, and these early efforts were naturally of the most trifling and unimportant character. In a Western city, where he had risen to the position of reporter for a daily paper, he commenced the publication of those sketches which, under the name of Artemus Ward's Sayings, have since become so well-known and have rendered him so popular. At the outset, these articles in *The Cleveland Plaindealer* were carelessly written in hasty moments of leisure, and with no expectation of attracting especial attention; but finding that they rapidly attained a notoriety which might well be said to be without parallel, and that their author, he applied himself more earnestly to their preparation, and presently gained for himself the reputation of one of the cleverest and most original humorous writers that the country had produced. His name is well known to the proprietors of *Fanny Fair*, a comic periodical, which had, a few

years ago, and, under similar auspices in several of our cities, he has been engaged, for a time, to act as its editor. While associated with *Family Fair* he first turned his attention to the line of business which he afterward developed with *the Latter-day Evangelist*, a paper which he has delivered in Brooklyn, and, with others, — "Jabes in the Wood." "Sixty Minutes in Africa," etc., was repeated in the principal cities of the Eastern and Western States, and in the British Colonies, and in Utah, more especially with reference to a lively illustration of the characteristics of the Mormon province, was formed by him in 1882, and was carried out with the good fortune which that time distinguished his efforts. He has returned to the United States, and he commenced a series of lectures with panoramic appliances—the last and the best entertainment with which his name is connected. Of their peculiar character, and of the success which attended them in America, if not, also, in England, Mr. Browne's peculiar cleverness as an actor, and the quaint drollery of his appearance and demeanor, united to the fact that he was a native of the Mormon country, made the "Mormon lecture" the most attractive of the light popular diversions of the city. After concluding his New York season, he returned to his native land, and, in the month of March, 1883, he was touring everywhere the same applause and profit. At this time the first symptoms were observed of the disease which has just proved fatal to him. He was, however, so much attached to the gravity of these pronouncements, neglected to modify the somewhat free manner of his living in order to rescue himself from danger. During several months he continued to give his usual brilliant performances altogether. But in the Spring of 1884, finding his health in some degree improved, and full of that unconsciousness of peril which the consumptive invariably possesses, he was induced to make a special visit to England. He arrived there in June, and in too exhausted a state to undertake immediately his new duties. When, however, in November, he had somewhat recovered, he was again induced to complete as to outshine the best of his American achievements. He appeared under singularly happy and advantageous circumstances. His writings had been, to say the least, well received. He had been completely identified at home. His books, reprinted by various publishers, were of every city stall, and in every railway station. He had been heralded by many prominent persons, and his name was everywhere. Then Mr. Charles Rendle and Mr. G. A. Sala. He was welcomed on arriving, with the great

London—the contributors to *Punch*, *Fun*, all the *Year-Books*, and the magazines—all of whom co-operated earnestly to place his success beyond the shadow of a doubt. But, alas! the illness, although, in consequence of his illness, they exhibited less spirit and energy than the earlier sketches, were flatteringly received, and their popularity was hailed by his friends. It was, however, his enterprise, would this, the irrepressible fin of the "lecture," at once satisfied them all that their sympathy was well bestowed, and that their good offices had not been misplaced. For about five months, Mr. Browne, without ceasing to be the master of humor among the London populace, and, as such, our readers are aware, compelled to seek the retirement from which he was destined never to return, notwithstanding the many attacks, but, finding no improvement in his health, returned to Southampton, whence he had hoped to be able to sail for home. But this desire was opposed by the friends of the world, who would it was impossible for him even to leave the harbor alive on shipboard. Letters dated the 23d of February state that he was at that time fully conscious that he was dying, and that he was surrounded by the kindest care from the gentlemen who so cordially received him in London, and during the last month of his life he was closely attended, day and night, by sympathizing friends. It appears, however, that the friends of Mr. Browne, and the generous solicitude so many Americans have been indebted, was unceasing in his endeavors to contribute to the sufferer's comfort, and to spare him all anxiety, and, in his last hours, was spared and composed as human care could make them.

Of Mr. Browne's personal qualities it is impossible for any person who has ever known him to speak in terms so high and so full of truth as those of a hearty and affectionate nature could not be imagined; and the sweetness of his disposition was always sufficient to atone for all the small annoyances which he ever denied, and of which he was himself perfectly conscious. His sphere was fixed, though in it he was unapproachable. He will be very, and very profoundly lamented, and his memory will be a source of comfort to all those who were in want of a charming companion, a generous friend, and a man whose heart was always warm and true to the tenderest impulses of humanity.

CRIME.

3. A FORGEE ARRESTED.

IN REFUGES TO THE THUNDER.

BOSTON, March 8.—A young man named George McCrean has been arrested for passing forged checks for small amounts. He says he belongs to New-York.

4. A FUGITIVE IN THE NET.

ST. LOUIS, March 8.—Montgomery papers say that a personal altercation between George Moore of Ohio and Prof. Hodge and his son of New-York, occurred in the city of St. Louis, on the 2d inst. The form and very severe wounding of the latter.

5. MORE DEFAULTS IN BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, March 8.—Reports of two additional defaultations are current on the street, one in a Marine Insurance Company, and the other in a large fancy store in Baltimore-st. The amounts are variously stated, but the persons named are the first of the persons occupying a high social and mercantile position, and have been for some years managers of the victims of the swindle. The officer was a confidential clerk on a small salary.

THE ALLEGED LOTTERY SWINDLE.

Yesterday the prisoners who were arrested at No. 62 Broadway, on a charge of violating the lottery laws, were brought before Justice Dowling at the Tombs. They only included the first party, Webster & Co., the principal managers of the "Bankers and Merchants' Grand Presentation Entertainment," is Henry Ellis, formerly calling the attention of the public to the swindle. A charge was made, entered a complaint against the latter, charging that the accused confessed to him that he was a member of the firm of the account of a forthcoming lottery, in which money, watches, pianos, &c., were to be disposed of by chance. Tickets \$100 each, the draw was to be made on the 10th inst. The fact of the seizure of tickets and circulars, and the arrest of persons who were found employed in the place, was fully decided, as the fact of the first offense, to discharge the employees, male and female, who were arrested, and committed Ellis to await an arrest.

6. BURGULARY IN UNION-SQUARE.

The store of William H. Roberts, merchant tailor, at No. 39 Union-square, was entered on the night of the 25th ult. by burglars, who burst in a panel of the front door and stole about \$2,000 worth of cloths, which they took away in a wagon stationed in front of the building. The burglars were seen to enter the building, and the horse and wagon used on the occasion were under the charge of a colored man named Robert Wilson, and a pawn ticket was found in the hands of the latter.

representing a piece of the stolen cloth. He is a coachman, committed the accused for trial. He is a coachman, 25 years of age, and lived in Larkston.

THIEF OF MONEY AND BONDS.

Detectives Niven and Vaughan on Tuesday afternoon arrested a young man named Charles W. Brewster, on a requisition from Gov. Bullock for Massachusetts upon Gov. Fenton. It is alleged that about ten days since the prisoner stole from a firm in Taunton, Mass., money and bonds to the amount of \$15,000, with which he fled to Boston. He was afterward tracked to Providence, and a few days since he came on here. Sheriff Rabbit of Taunton, was given into the custody of Sheriff Haggard, the accused, and last evening the officer and his prisoner departed for their place.